

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Travis Parry

Serial No.: 10/044,406

Filed: January 11, 2002

Docket No.: 10007328-1

Title: PRINTER SELECTION SYSTEM AND METHOD WITH PRINT REQUEST DISTRIBUTION**REMARKS**

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed July 26, 2005, in which claims 1-29 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 13, and 17 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 1-29 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

**Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mastie et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,498,656.

With this Amendment, independent claims 1 and 13 have each been amended to clarify that the method includes distributing the print request for the print job from the one of the printers to at least another of the printers associated with the one of the printers, and includes submitting a print offer to the user from the at least another of the printers for the at least another of the printers to print the print job if the at least another of the printers has the printing capability to fulfill the print job. In addition, independent claim 17 has been amended to clarify that the first controller is adapted to distribute the print request for the print job from the first printer to at least a second printer of the plurality of printers, and clarify that the second controller is adapted to submit a print offer to the user for the second printer to print the print job if the second printer has the printing capability to fulfill the print job.

With respect to the Mastie et al. patent, this patent does not teach or suggest a method of selecting a printer as claimed in independent claims 1 and 13 including, amongst other things, distributing the print request for the print job from the one of the printers to at least another of the printers associated with the one of the printers, and submitting a print offer to the user from the at least another of the printers for the at least another of the printers to print the print job if the at least another of the printers has the printing capability to fulfill the print job, nor a system for selecting a printer as claimed in independent claim 17 wherein, amongst other things, the first controller is adapted to distribute the print request for the print job from the first printer to at least a second printer of the plurality of printers, and the second controller is adapted to submit a print offer to the user for the second printer to print the print job if the second printer has the printing capability to fulfill the print job.

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In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 13, and 17 are each patentably distinct from the Mastie et al. patent and, therefore, are in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2-12 further define patentably distinct claim 1, dependent claims 14-16 further define patentably distinct claim 13, and dependent claims 18-29 further define patentably distinct claim 17, Applicant submits that these dependent claims are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1-29 be allowed.

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Title: PRINTER SELECTION SYSTEM AND METHOD WITH PRINT REQUEST DISTRIBUTION**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-29 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Nathan Rieth at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2005.

By   
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Name: Scott A. Lund